



GENERAL MOTORS LLC  
Global Vehicle Safety

June 3, 2015

Mr. Frank S. Borris II  
Director, Office of Defects Investigation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-302  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Borris:

On May 27, 2014, General Motors LLC (“GM”) decided to conduct a safety recall on 334 2015 model year Chevrolet Malibu model vehicles that were manufactured outside of the United States and sold in Korea, Kuwait, Oman, UAE, Lebanon, and Singapore. On these vehicles, the body-bore seal in the front-seat side-impact airbag (“SIAB”) inflator may separate from the inflator bottle during a deployment, which can increase the risk of injury to vehicle occupants during a crash.

GM sold “substantially similar” vehicles in the United States, as that term is used in 49 C.F.R. § 579.11. As more fully explained in the attached section 579.11 report, this foreign recall is not applicable to the similar vehicles sold in the U.S. because these vehicles were not produced with the defective SIAB modules that necessitated the foreign recall.

Vehicles identified in this letter as “substantially similar” under the broad definition specified in 49 C.F.R. part 579 can be different in design, performance, durability, and other characteristics. Accordingly, these vehicles may not be “substantially similar” except for purposes of reporting under 49 C.F.R. part 579.

Please contact me if you have any further questions concerning this report.

Sincerely,

Brian Latouf, Director  
Global Safety and Field Investigations  
Regulation/Certification

Enclosure: General Motors LLC’s Section 579.11 Report



## GENERAL MOTORS LLC

### 579.11 REPORT

MANUFACTURER:	General Motors LLC
MAKE:	Chevrolet
MODEL & YEAR:	Certain 2015 model year Chevrolet Malibu vehicles
NUMBER OF VEHICLES:	334 Units (Produced February 5, 2015, through March 5, 2015)
ACTION TYPE DETERMINATION:	Safety Recall
CONDITION:	On these vehicles, the body-bore seal in the front-seat side-impact airbag (“SIAB”) inflator may separate from the inflator bottle during a deployment, which may propel pieces of the inflator and other components into the interior compartment, possibly striking occupants. It may also prevent the SIAB from properly inflating. These effects could increase the risk of injury to the occupants.
CORRECTION:	GM dealers will replace the affected front-seat SIAB in all involved vehicles.
DATE OF DETERMINATION:	May 27, 2015.
ACTION COMMENCED:	Scheduled for June 2015.
COUNTRIES INVOLVED:	Korea, Kuwait, Oman, UAE, Lebanon, and Singapore
SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR U.S. VEHICLE:	2015 model year Chevrolet Malibu, Chevrolet Impala, Buick Regal, Buick LaCrosse, and Cadillac XTS vehicles
COMMENT:	On March 6, 2015, a SIAB module failed a routine lot-acceptance test conducted by Takata, the module’s supplier. The test involved a module that had not been installed into a vehicle. After the failed test, Takata and GM: (i) quarantined the inflators that were produced in the same manufacturing period—a “batch”—as the defective inflator and that had not been installed into vehicles; (ii) repaired the unsold vehicles that contained inflators from the suspect batch; and (iii) identified 334 inflators from the suspect batch that had been installed into vehicles and that were sold before the quarantine. On May 27, 2015, GM decided to conduct a safety recall to replace the SIAB modules in these vehicles. The substantially similar models sold in the U.S. were not manufactured with the SIAB modules from the suspect batch.